

BARRE DAILY TIMES

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MONDAY, MARCH 9, 1914.

The town of Roosevelt, L. I., wishes to change its name to Providence—swapping divinites, so to speak.

If those Texas Rangers are one-half as bad as painted, the Mexicans should begin to run to their storm cellars.

The recent baseball tour by the Giants and the White Sox was an important step in the Americanization of the world.

It is authoritatively denied that Tris Speaker of the Boston Red Sox has bought out the Standard Oil corporation.

Mayor Curley is quite modest in figuring that he has saved the city of Boston only \$7,900,000. Why stop \$100,000 short of a round eight-million?

The Sims bill to uphold the president on canal tolls exemption is moving merrily along. This is one instance in which party lines are nearly obliterated; and well it is, because the question is not one of politics.

One day's papers tell of the New Haven's deficit of \$889,178, and the next day's papers tell of enormous profits made by a banking firm in handling the securities of the railroad and its subsidiaries. Perhaps there is effect and partial cause placed in rather damaging juxtaposition.

The late George Washington Vanderbilt was a benefactor to a certain extent willingly, but unwillingly he was more so when compelled to pay thousands for farms which were valued for hundreds prior to his move to build a great country estate in North Carolina. The best that can be said about the latter was that it put a vast amount of money into circulation that otherwise would have been locked up in the Vanderbilt strongbox.

While the interstate commerce commission's report on the Puget Sound railroad property is bound to have a depressing effect on railroad stocks and is likely to cause loss to stockholders of that particular line, it seems that such revelations are needed to check some of the manipulation of railroad stocks and properties in order to protect prospective stockholders of other lines and, at the same time, to give the needed stability to all railroad shares. A house-cleaning or two along this line will do temporary harm and permanent good.

Those three citizens of the United States who have sworn their allegiance to the American constitution and sworn allegiance to the government of Great Britain just because of the demand which the income tax imposes on them are probably no great loss to the United States anyway, as they have made their residence chiefly in Great Britain and have established most of their interests there except for the income which flows in from the country they have deserted. At the same time, if an injustice has been done them and others of their class in the imposing of the tax against which they protest, the matter ought to be remedied by Congress at the first opportunity.

A "STRAW VOTE" FOR THE SENATE.

If Governor Fletcher has aspirations for a position in the United States Senate, as he is credited with having, the result of the "straw vote" in Lamoille county on Tuesday is likely to serve as a wet blanket inasmuch as he received only about 10 per cent of the total vote registered in the test. He was a very poor third to both United States Senator William P. Dillingham and Charles A. Prouty, the latter running somewhat behind the former, although not so far behind as to be out of the reckoning should he reverse his plan of not being an active candidate for the position. Lamoille county's vote is small in comparison with the vote of nearly every other county in the state, but its sentiment may be considered fairly representative of the state in this matter.

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Dillingham received 353 votes; Prouty received 313; Fletcher received 93.

In considering this test vote several things must be taken into consideration. One is that Lamoille county borders Washington county, the home county of Senator Dillingham, and that it also borders Orleans county which is the home of Prouty sentiment, and that the test was taken just at a time when the people of that hot-bed were worked up to a high pitch of enthusiasm. Therefore, it may fairly be considered that both Dillingham and Prouty would run stronger in Lamoille county than Fletcher; but to counteract whatever influence a close residential association may have in influencing voters there is the influence which Fletcher has been able to wield in his tours of the state, which, presumably, included some section of Lamoille county. Gov. Fletcher has been one of our most traveled governors—that is, traveling over the state again and again and bringing himself in close touch with the people. He has been, apparently, a strong believer in the value of close association, and he has come in contact with a large section of the people, while both Dillingham and Prouty have been removed from close association. Then, too, as chief executive of the state, he has been in a position where the people of the state could judge of him at close range. Therefore, the advantages which Dillingham and Prouty had from residence in counties bordering Lamoille were offset by Fletcher's more intimate present association with the people.

Then, again, Dillingham perhaps had the advantage which comes with holding the position to which he seeks reelection; but in the case of Prouty that was counteracted by the widespread distinction which the Orleans county man gained as a member of the interstate commerce commission and by selection as the one best fitted in the United States for the important work of making a physical valuation of the railroads of the nation.

With these various influences militating to the advantage of each one of the three possible candidates, it may be considered that the "straw vote" in Lamoille county was a fairly accurate index of public sentiment in Vermont today.

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CURRENT COMMENT**Why Waterbury Voted License.**

It was sure to come sooner or later and it might just as well be this year as any. The demoralizing experience of having license for one year had to come in order to wake up the class of people who are saying "no danger; no need of my voting." The license vote was all out—206—and the no-license element—some 550—was represented by 201 votes. This is just how it happened to go license, and blame rests upon the shoulders of the no-license people who failed to go to the meeting and do their duty.—Waterbury Record.

Gov. Walsh's Salary.

Gov. Walsh is to be commended for insisting that any proposed increase in his salary should not be made applicable to the term for which he has already been elected. He would be doing still better were he to oppose the change altogether. The issue is not one of \$4,000, but of the "atmosphere" which such an increase would create. Already bills are under consideration for increasing the salaries of other state and county officers. We wish money were plentiful enough so that they could all have the larger compensation proposed, but when we recall the extraordinary proportions which the present state tax has reached, and the justifiable protestations of the mayors of our cities against its further advance, we realize that all such items count in the grand total. The governor will be in a far weaker position to enforce on the legislature the economies which are necessary, if its members see his own salary, although affecting only succeeding terms, materially heightened.—Boston Herald.

Congressman Plumley.

The announcement of Congressman Plumley that he will not be a candidate for reelection clears the field at once for any and all others who may possibly have had an ambition, even though then latent to represent the second district in the popular branch of the national legislature.

This action of Congressman Plumley in making known his decision at the very beginning of the campaign was a thoughtful and fair one on his part as respects that duty he owed to other prospective party candidates, and in view of the probability of an animated and hotly contested campaign for the choice of his successor it appears to the Landmark that he has also been just and fair to himself in the matter of declining to be a candidate at his age, for there is no honor in holding the office that is not already his.

The campaign in the second district this year will be quite a different matter than heretofore for, in all probability, there will be three party candidates instead of two as heretofore. In the national election of 1912 the Progressive party had a plurality in the second district but no congressional candidate. This year it is likely to have one, who will also be the Democratic party.—White River Junction Landmark.

Not a Place for Politics.

The annual meeting and banquet of the Greater Vermont association took place in Burlington last week Tuesday. It was a gathering of men of prominence from all parts of the state for the purpose of discussing affairs pertaining to the state's industrial development and improvement. Politics had not a place in it, and yet it was made the occasion for an attempt to launch a boom for Charles A. Prouty for United States Senator.

The annual meeting of the Windham County Agricultural association took place in Brattleboro this week—a gathering of farmers to discuss agricultural subjects and learn from state and federal experts concerning better methods of farming. Politics was not a part of the program, but there appeared two promoters of the Prouty boom who spent the day hobnobbing with the members of the association.

Is it possible that the call of the people must be fostered and braced up in this way? Whatever may be the merits of Mr. Prouty's candidacy and however genuine the enthusiasm of those who are behind it we believe a grave mistake is being made by utilizing public meetings for political log rolling. The people of the state are not yet quite ready to be swept off their feet on the question of the United States senatorship.—Brattleboro Phoenix.

The State Control of County Jails.

It will be interesting to watch the action of the Republicans in the legislature on the bill providing for the transfer of control of the county jails to the state as drafted by the prison commissioner and still in the committee on social welfare. The measure is based on the need of carrying out, if we are to make a real advance in prison reform, some intelligent system of classification of the inmates. At present, drunks, drug cases, professional criminals, pervers are all kept in one institution, according to the county from which they are committed. The results are anything but encouraging. More often the prisoners lose rather than gain during their stay.

Under state control, the twenty-one

county jails could be employed for housing the same prisoners in different groupings. The cases of similar kinds might be put together and receive the same kind of treatment. The hardened vicious would have far less chance of spreading the infection of crime; the opportunity of getting at the men sentenced for minor offenses in the way of reform would be greatly increased. It would clear the path for enlightened methods of dealing with the penal community, which look to the future as citizens of the individuals, while they are paying the penalty of law-breaking.

Such a change in classification is fundamental, if the state is to bring its prison management to a level with that of the leaders. And to this step the Republican party has definitely committed itself. In the platform adopted last fall, one of the social welfare planks explicitly pledged the organization to support the transfer of control of the jails from county authorities to the state. Not a word of opposition has been uttered either at the time or since, even by the county commissioners, who have in the past made a stubborn fight against the change, largely from regard for their own political power. Whether they will be willing to admit now that they do not need party platforms, or give them heed or not, the pledge is on record. The only obstacles they raise now lie in the financial questions involved. These are not easy to adjust, but they certainly are not insurmountable.

It might not be fair, of course, to penalize any county for the care or maintenance of more prisoners than are committed by its own courts, but the problem here becomes one simply of accurate bookkeeping and establishment of a system of reasonable assessment. The basic principle of the change proposed is sound and has proved its great value in the actual practical tests of other states. The majority party here is on record in support of it. There was a Democratic governor in office when the declaration was adopted, as there is today. It is a question of politics but of social advance, and political considerations ought not to be allowed to block its accomplishment.—Boston Herald.

Sugarin'.

This is the time when the fortunate possessors of sugar maple orchards are marshalling them into service. The season for this industry is said to be opening auspiciously. It has been languishing somewhat in recent years, primarily because so many of the stalwart trees have gone into wood and charcoal, and incidentally because the developments of spring have undergone an apparent change. We do not seem to enter upon it by the same regular gradations as formerly. A mild March in which the sap dries up may be succeeded by a boisterous April, but the conditions at present are more promising. The frost has gone deep into the ground and a gradual release of the sweet blood of the maple will give us a comparatively bountiful crop. The nightly stiffening of the ground, followed by the day's thaw, means a free flow, and the sugar bushes will be interesting canvas for the next three or four weeks. This will be especially true of Maine, Vermont and New Hampshire, and to a less degree of Massachusetts, though there was a time when the western part of the state flowed with this delectable sweet in quantities that were very appreciable factors in rural incomes. Once maple sugar and maple syrup made the farmer independent. Now it has become more or less a luxury for all classes. It is getting about as scarce as the real old fashioned buskewet cakes, such as our mothers used to make.—Boston Transcript.

What About Spitzbergen?

It seems that Europe would like to know what America is going to do about Spitzbergen. Our government has been asked to send a delegate to an international conference at Christiania, where the other countries represented will be Russia, Germany, France, Great Britain, Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Holland. Which flag is to fly over the Spitzbergen archipelago? Are the different islands to come under different flags? Is there to be sovereignty at all, or a friendly recognition of all interests by means of some plan of neutralization? These are some of the questions that are in the minds of the interested nations, and that will have to be considered at the conference, with the hope of arriving at an agreement.

It is late in the day to talk about anything like national rights in these islands. The property of none, they have been the prey of all. England wished to annex them 300 years ago, when her whalers were hauling fortunes from the waters around the peaks of ice. But the Dutch and the Danes came sailing in with such fleets that she abandoned the idea. The Russians followed, and the Norwegians of the nearer lands were all the time taking their share. Then there was what they called hunting ashore, which meant the indiscriminate slaughter of every living creature which had a fat that could be sold. And these are the consequences: The whale has disappeared, the seals have been exterminated, the walrus nearly so, the polar bears and arctic foxes are few, and the reindeer are approaching extinction. What is left to attract American interest? Not timber, for there can be no

lumbering in a land whose largest tree does not exceed two inches in height. But there is coal. The hunters did not get down to that. Not till 1900 was it discovered and appropriated, a seam 10 feet thick, beneath 40 feet of ice and 20 feet of rock, at Advent bay, on the island of Prince Charles Foreland. There the Arctic Coal company, born in Boston, has a coal field over three miles long, and at two other points it is working coal, which finds a ready market at Norwegian ports. That is really why European nations want to have a talk with the United States about Spitzbergen affairs. One thing is certain, that this country has no thought of annexation. The interests of all parties, made valid by possession, may be easily preserved if the nations agree to declare Spitzbergen a neutral territory open to all.—Boston Herald.

WATERBURY.

The funeral of Mrs. Abbie W. Crockett was held from the home of her nephew, Fred Billings, in Stowe Saturday at 11 o'clock, with burial in the Billings' lot in the Riverbank cemetery. Rev. F. T. Crane officiated and Mrs. Barrows sang in a very effective manner. The bearers were nephews, Fred Billings of Stowe, William Marshall and Everett Marshall of Waitsfield, and James Jacobs of Burlington. Among those present from out of town were Mrs. Mamie Dewing and daughter, Miss Bertha Dewing of Burlington; Mrs. Truman Nichols and Mrs. Charles Hurlburt of Bellows Falls; Mr. and Mrs. James Jacobs of Burlington; Mrs. James Cass of Randolph; William and Everett Marshall of Waitsfield; Mr. and Mrs. Philip Shonko, Judge E. W. Huntley, S. E. Kennedy and Miss Marion Kennedy of this place.

The opera house was packed Friday night at the last entertainment in the lecture and entertainment course, a concert by the Wilder school of music of Burlington. This, personally conducted by George Hubbard Wilder, was enough to draw his many friends in town to the concert and those who expected much were not disappointed. Mr. Wilder acted as accompanist and the different soloists showed the worth of his teaching. Miss Doris Eleanor Taft, as coloratura soprano, and Archie Stewart, as basso cantante, gave some very fine numbers. Mrs. Stewart is one of Mr. Wilder's Rutland pupils, he having a large class now in that city. Miss May Patricia Mayner, flute virtuoso, showed rapid technique and her selections received a merited applause. Of Mrs. George Hubbard Wilder, who as dramatic contralto, displayed not only natural talent with the wonderfully rich voice, but also a great amount of work in the method, too much praise cannot be said. Her selections from "Samson et Dalila," by Saint-Saens and the "Air from Carmen," by Bizet, were supplemented by Tosti's "Good-Bye," and "Only a Rose," for encores, also "Way Down Upon the Swanne River" for second encore. People were loud in her praises and predict a brilliant future for her. Mrs. Wilder's stage presence is also very pleasing. The boy reader, Leo James Casey, who assisted the musicians, showed much promise and his selection were all well received. The whole program was the most artistic heard in town for a long time and reflected much credit upon the teacher, as well as the artists.

WAITSFIELD.

The Home circle will serve dinner on Wednesday in the vestry of the Congregational church.

Mrs. George Ford of Warren has been spending several days the past week with relatives in town.

Alton E. Farr and Paul Buzzell have been in Middlesex the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. John Buzzell and little daughter, Lena May, spent Sunday in East Warren.

"A Noble Outcast" will be given by an amateur company from Warren Tuesday evening in I. O. O. F. hall.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Freeman of Warren spent the week-end at M. J. Waterman's.

Charles Brooks of Northfield is spending the month of March with his aunt, Mrs. Warren Palmer.

Miss Gladys Hill of Isle La Motte is visiting Mrs. James Niell.

Miss Dorothy Miner left Thursday for Montpelier, where she is training for a nurse at Heaton hospital.

Miss Alice Becker of Burlington was the guest of Mrs. C. J. Greene last week. Harry McAllister, who seriously injured his knee recently, is improving, but is still unable to attend school.

Members of the Nature club are requested to answer the roll call at the next meeting with a short quotation on some nature subject. The meeting will be held in library hall on Saturday, March 14, at 3 p. m.

Larry Gardner, the Enosburg Falls lad who was detained from making the trip with the Red Sox's advance guard ten days ago because of illness in his family, left this week to report to Carrigan at Hot Springs. He was accompanied by Harold Janvrin, the youthful infielder.

One of Bill Carrigan's best assets as manager of the Boston Americans is his personality. The players swear by him. It is said that if he was to jump to the Federal league a large number of the Red Sox would go with him.

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A Women's Club With "the Wallop."

In the March Woman's Home Companion appears an account of the Women's Civic club founded a few years ago in a small city in New Jersey. This club really does things. Its record of remarkable activities proves that women do not take part in government. The explanation of its success lies in everlastingly keeping at things. Following are some of the things that the club has accomplished:

"After the club had petitioned the city fathers for 15 years to purchase two lots opposite the station for a city park, the purchase was made."

"After the club had run snow plows for seven years the city took them over."

"The club secured the appointment of a school doctor and a school nurse; and it also prevented the turning out of an able school superintendent for political reasons, simply by a campaign of publicity."

"The club has put up signs all over the country as to the steepness of hills and the danger of curves; it has provided fountains, seats, trees, shrubbery, cans for litter, spittoons and watering troughs; it has sent incorrigible boys to school; clothed indigent children; secured the investigation of vice conditions; carried on campaigns against flies

and mosquitoes, and engaged popular lecturers to exhort the voters on civic righteousness."

Here are extracts from the minutes of one meeting:

"(1) Mrs. Lacy was authorized to have the sign about unchecked horses, at the foot of Pike's hill, repainted at a cost not to exceed \$1.50."

"(2) Miss Brown was requested to find out whether the bubbling fountain is of such an altitude as to be properly used by drinkers, and to report on this at the next meeting."

"(3) Miss Crane was appointed a committee of one to take a photograph of the vacant lot at the corner of Bleak and Snow streets and to mail same to owner."

"(4) It was resolved that as many members as could find it convenient should drop in at the Home Meat Store and congratulate the proprietor upon his new arrangements for keeping fruit under cover."

Things Look Biggest

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